

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A device for minimizing cigarette sidestream smoke and reducing free-burn rate of a burning cigarette in combination with a filter tip,

a) said device comprising:

i) a non-combustible porous tubular element encasing an effective length of a tobacco charge of a cigarette located in said tubular element, said tubular element having an open end adjacent a distal end of said cigarette to permit lighting of the cigarette distal end and to permit ingress of air while said tobacco charge is burning; and

ii) said tubular element having a predetermined porosity along at least its length which encases said effective length of said tobacco charge for both minimizing sidestream smoke emission from ~~a burning the~~ tobacco charge when burning and reducing free-burn rate of ~~such burning the~~ tobacco charge when burning to increase number of puffs from ~~such burning the~~ tobacco charge when burning; and

b) said filter tip comprising an inlet end and an outlet end, said inlet end having an annular sleeve with a central bore to receive an end of said cigarette, said annular sleeve having an outer shoulder onto which said tubular element is friction fitted, said central bore being in communication with a first inner tube of a first filter material, said first inner tube having a closed end opposite ~~its end~~ an end of said first inner tube in communication with said sleeve central bore, an annular space being provided outside of said first inner tube, a filter plug provided downstream of said annular space and filling said outlet end of said filter tip, a plenum between said filter plug and said first inner tube for transferring filtered smoke from said annular space to said filter plug.

Claim 2. (Original) The device in combination with the filter tip of claim 1 wherein said effective length of said tobacco has a diameter in the range of about 4 to about 6 mm.

Claim 3. (Original) The device in combination with the filter tip of claim 1 wherein a second tube of a second filter material is concentrically located in said annular space about said first tube.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The device in combination with the filter tip of claim 3 wherein said filter materials of said first and second tubes is are selected from a group of materials consisting of cellulosic material, glass ceramic or carbon fibre matting material, activated charcoal material, micro-fibre material and any of said materials incorporating a catalytic material.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The device in combination with the filter tips tip of claim 1 having an annulus between ~~tube~~ an interior surface of said tubular element and cigarette periphery, said annulus defining a gap spacing of about 0.5 mm to about 3 mm ~~and preferably about 1.5 to 2.5 mm.~~

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) The device in combination with the filter tip of claim 1 wherein a the cigarette ~~to be inserted~~ in said tubular element is inherently unsmokeable and becomes smokeable when inserted in said tubular element.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) The device in combination with the filter tip of claim 1 wherein a the cigarette ~~to be inserted~~ in said tubular element has a filter element which is sufficiently porous to render the cigarette inherently unsmokeable and becomes smokeable when inserted in a filter tip portion of said tubular element.

Claim 8. (Original) The device in combination with the filter tip of claim 1 wherein said open end of said tubular element is open while said cigarette is smoked and said open end is adjacent a distal end of said cigarette.

Claim 9. (Original) The device in combination with the filter tip of claim 1 wherein said predetermined porosity for said tubular element:

- a) retains around a burning ember of said cigarette oxygen deprived combustion gases within said tubular element to reduce rate of combustion and minimizes release of smoke particles through said porous tubular element; and
- b) restricts inward flow of air to reduce free-burn rate of said cigarette.

Claim 10. (Cancel)

Claim 11. (Cancel)